

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 7-47 were pending in the application. Claims 32-47 have been canceled without prejudice. No claims have been amended.

In the Office Action, the Examiner wrote that claims 32-47 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. Note that Applicant does not necessarily agree with the Examiner, however, Applicant hereby cancels claims 32-47 without prejudice solely for the purpose of obtaining an issued patent as soon as possible.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 7, 10-13, 15, and 18-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith Dewey (U.S. Patent No. 6,229,430, hereinafter, "Smith Dewey"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

As set forth on p.1 of the Specification, the current application claims the benefit of at least the U.S. Provisional Application 60/143,475, filed July 12, 1999, entitled Alarm Clock with Link to the Internet. Smith Dewey was filed on February 18, 2000, which is after the priority date of the current application. Therefore, Smith Dewey fails to qualify as prior art against the current application. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection relying on Smith Dewey.

The Examiner rejected claims 8-9, 14, 16-17, and 23-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith Dewey in view of Hidary et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,774,664, hereinafter, "Hidary"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claims 7, 10-13, 15, and 18-22.

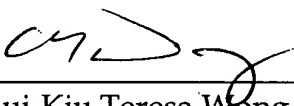
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) have been overcome by the remarks and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that claims 7-31 are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 4-27-04.


Esther L. Campbell
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Date